

## Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 EUR-25 AID-20 L-03 AGR-20 CIAE-00

EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-10 PRS-01 PA-04

USIA-15 H-03 DRC-01 /199 W

----- 120565

R 121646Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6460

INFO USDOC/RUEHDC

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1698

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJ: WISA MEETING URGES NEW SUGAR PRICE

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1687

1. GENERAL WISA MEETING HERE ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NEGOTIATION OF NEW COMMONWEALTH PRICE FOR SUGAR. AT DECEMBER 11 PRESS CONFERENCE WISA CHAIRMAN, SIR ROBERT KIRKWOOD, ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT WEST INDIES WOULD IN FUTURE MEET QUOTAS TO BRITAIN AND U.S. AND PERHAPS CANADA AS WELL.

2. WISA CHAIRMAN, NOTING THAT U.K. PRICE OF POUND 61 PER TON IS BELOW ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS OF POUND 75, ANNOUNCED THAT ASSOCIATION HAD PASSED RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE HIGHER PRICE FROM U.K. WISA RESOLUTION SUPPORTS SIMILAR RESOLUTION WHICH CARIBBEAN CANE FARMERS ASSOCIATION (CCFA) PASSED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

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3. SIR ROBERT BLAMED ADVERSE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS, LABOR TROUBLES AND PROBLEMS WITH MECHANIZATION FOR REGION'S LOW PRODUCTION THIS YEAR (APPROXIMATELY 950,000 TONS) BUT BOTH HE AND CCFA PRESIDENT NORMAN GIRWAR EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SUGAR WOULD CONTINUE AS WEST INDIES MAJOR MONEY CROP, AND THAT WISA, CCFA AND GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED WOULD SUCCESSFULLY WORK OUT MANY PROBLEMS FACING INDUSTRY. PRESS CONFERENCE DISCLOSED FURTHER THAT WISA WAS CONSIDERING PROPOSAL TO FORM JOINT WISA-CCFA BODY TO FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS.

4. SIR ROBERT ALSO REVEALED THAT WISA ADVISORY COMMITTEE HEADED BY TRAVOR ELLIS (REFTEL) WOULD ASSIST IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH WEST INDIES GOVERNMENTS FOR NEW U.K. PRICE.

COMMENT:

5. WISA'S AIRY CONFIDENCE REGARDING FUTURE PRODUCTION AND CALL FOR U.K. PRICE INCREASE TEND TO OBSCURE DIFFICULTIES REGION HAS EXPERIENCED IN FULFILLING U.S. AND COMMONWEALTH QUOTAS. ASSOCIATION HAS MANAGED TO SIDESTEP NEATLY, FOR TIME BEING, ISSUE OF OPTING FOR HIGHER-PRICED U.S. MARKET. WHETHER ALL GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED HOLD TO THIS LINE OR NOT APPEARS TO DEPEND ON OUTCOME OF CARICOM MEETINGS SLATED FOR JANUARY ALTHOUGH JAMAICA REPRESENTATIVE (FLETCHER) MAY SEEK TO RAISE ISSUE BEFORE THAT TIME.

6. EMBASSY HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT GUYANA REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPORT FLETCHER DURING WISA SESSION MONDAY, ALTHOUGH SOME MADE REMARKS AFTERWARDS IN PRIVATE INDICATING THEY WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIGHER U.S. PRICES.  
DONOVAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SUGAR, SUPPLIES, MEETINGS, EXPORT PRICES, IMPORT QUOTAS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 92  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** WISA MEETING URGES NEW SUGAR PRICE  
**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, BB, XL, UK, CCFA, WISA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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